



"I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the Lord arrives. His preaching will turn the hearts of fathers to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers." - Malachi 4:5-6

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly.

But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord...He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years."

The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time."

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. "The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days He has shown His favor and taken away my disgrace among the people." – John 1:1-25

1. God has a _____.

"...which will come true at their appointed time." – Luke 1:20

2. God will use _____ to bring about His plan.

"Your prayer has been heard." – Luke 1:13

"Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need." – Luke 11:5-8

3. God's plan always takes _____.

The neighbors were filled with AWE, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, "What then is this child going to be?" For the Lord's hand was with Him. – Luke 1:65-66

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even GREATER THINGS than these, because I am going to the Father." – John 14:12

Upcoming Special Events at CrossPointe:

December 8th – Christmas Family FunDay / Bloodmobile

December 12th – Caroling @ Tampa Gardens – (5PM)

December 15th – Beloved Ornament Exchange (5-7PM)

December 24th – Christmas Eve Service (5PM)

Contact the Church office @ 813-949-7727 for additional information.

Find us on Social Media:

Website: CrossPointeTampa.com

YouTube: [@CrossPointeFamilyChurch](https://www.youtube.com/@CrossPointeFamilyChurch)

**Instagram: Church - [@crosspointetampa](https://www.instagram.com/crosspointetampa)
Youth - [@Refuge 429](https://www.instagram.com/refuge429)**

**Facebook: Church - www.facebook.com/cpctampa
Youth - www.facebook.com/refuge777**

Ways to Connect at CPFC:

Adult Bible studies, Young Adult Bible studies, Youth group, Kid's Kconnect, Creator Space, Prayer Groups, PALS 55+, Amazing Grace Ministries, Mission Trips, Softball, Media, Grounds and Greeting teams and more!

Answers:

1. God has a plan.
2. God will use our prayers to bring about His plan.
3. God's plan always takes Woe to WOW!